

Remarks

In response to the Examiner's objections to the specification and drawings, a Substitute Specification (without claims) has been submitted herewith, along with an additional specification copy showing with solid line markings the additional language and numeral identifications. Also enclosed are proposed corrections to the drawings showing in red the additional ID numerals which were missing from the original drawings.

New textual recitations have been added to the Background, Summary of Invention, and Abstract sections, all of which are supported by the original specification, drawings and claims. Also additional phrases and explanatory paragraphs added to the specification provide clarity and consistency with the drawings and the proposed new ID numerals. Specific reference to the drawings has now been included in the detailed description. It is believed that none of these changes constitute the addition of new matter to the application. Moreover several typographical errors mentioned by the Examiner as well as other inadvertent errors have also been corrected in the Substitute Specification.

Accordingly the Examiner is requested to approve the drawing changes so that formal drawings may be completed and submitted, and to also approve the replacement of the original specification with the Substitute Specification. The various grounds for rejection of the specification and drawings under Section 112 have now been eliminated and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under Section 112 because of the use of the phrase

"narrowing pattern". Such a term has a clear meaning in the present application, and the portion of the flow chart drawing of Fig. 4B specifically describing such narrowing pattern has now been incorporated into the Substitute Specification. Also a reference to a recently issued patent by one of the present inventors Alfaro which further discloses such a narrowing pattern has been added by amendment to the Substitute Specification. Applicants are prepared to claim priority to such previously copending application of Alfaro, and obtain re-execution of a Substitute Declaration claiming such priority in order to eliminate any confusion or misunderstanding with respect to this aspect of the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Towery et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed. There is no teaching in Towery of eliminating alternate rows and then selectively preserving certain pixels from such eliminated rows in order to avoid losing important parts of an image printed on asymmetrical sub-pixels. On the contrary Towery seeks to add additional rows and increase the vertical resolution by interleaved printing on multiple passes of the carriage (see column 13, lines 34-67). The quote relied on by the Examiner at the bottom of column 6 is somewhat misleading since it indicates that "vertical dot depletion may be eliminated." without any further explanation. In contrast the present invention always eliminates the need for vertical dot depletion by eliminated alternate rows to create asymmetrical pixels and then when necessary preserving isolated pixels from such eliminated rows. As shown in Figs. 11 and 14 of Towery, all of the rows are potential candidates to receive ink drops, thus teaching away from the features of the present invention.

It is acknowledged that Towery does teach a horizontal depletion pattern at the top of column 7 which resembles the final horizontal depletion step of the present invention. But such

horizontal depletion is merely a beginning step for Towery to be followed by vertical depletion (see column 7, lines 47-51).

Accordingly it is submitted that there is insufficient basis for relying on Towery as an anticipation of the claims of the present application.

In view of all the foregoing, the Examiner is earnestly requested to give favorable reconsideration to the claims of the present application as supported by the original and Substitute Specification. The undersigned attorney is available for a telephone interview in the event that further amendments might be needed to place this case in condition for allowance, notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Substitution Specification (with marked copy showing changes)
Proposed Drawing Corrections